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Government be pleased to extend and continue the grant of subsistence loans till at least the next harvest season so as to enable them to get on with their cultivation?"

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" The Government will consider the grant of other kinds of loans but not the subsistence loans."

Construction of a causeway across the Puthige river, Kasaragod taluk.

* 720 *Q.*—SRI M. S. MOGRAL : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any resolutions from various panchayat boards in Kasaragod taluk sanctioning contributions for the construction of a causeway across the Puthige river in Kasaragod taluk;

(*b*) if so, what is the aggregate amount so sanctioned; and

(*c*) when the Government will carry out the work and whether they will contribute the balance necessary for the construction of the said causeway?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" (*a*) No.

" (*b*) & (*c*) Do not arise."

SRI M. S. MOGRAL :—" May I know whether the Government would encourage the panchayat boards which sanctioned contribution from their funds by way of financial aid to neighbouring boards to construct causeways and bridges which would also cover their needs, and would the Government contribute at least six times the amount so sanctioned by the panchayat boards? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" The Government give grants to district boards and the panchayats may negotiate with the district board and get on with the construction of their bridges."

Labour schools run by the Harijan Welfare Department.

* 721 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member, Sri P. Venkatasubbiah, who put the question, is not in his place. The question and answer will therefore be printed in the proceedings."

SRI P. VENKATASUBBIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of Labour schools run by the Harijan Welfare Department in the State of Madras; and

(*b*) the number of wells dug and the number of public latrines built for the use of Harijans in the State of Madras?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) At present 1,367 Harijan Welfare schools are being run by the Harijan Welfare Department.

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"(b) The particulars are not readily available. The Government consider that the labour and time involved in collecting the particulars will not be commensurate with any purpose likely to be served thereby."

East India Distilleries and Sugar Factories, Limited, Nellikuppam, South Arcot.

* 722 Q.—SRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the East India Distilleries and Sugar Factories, Limited, Nellikuppam, South Arcot district, are collecting Rs. 6 (six) per acre every year from the cane ryots of the Thiruvadi Anicut area, and if so, the reasons for it; and whether the Government have authorized them to do so?

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

As regards the second part, the following are the circumstances under which Messrs. East India Distilleries and Sugar Factory, Ltd., Nellikuppam, collect a sum of Rs. 6 per acre from the sugarcane ryots of the Thiruvadi Anicut area :—

(1) There is a wide belt of sugarcane cultivation under the Thiruvadi channel. Almost all the sugarcane grown in the area is supplied to the sugar factory for crushing;

(2) The channel has to be cleared of silt and weeds by kudimaramath. Due to neglect of the ryots to attend to this work and with a view to keep the channel in good condition, the factory is advancing the cost of clearance and recovering it from the sugarcane growers at about Rs. 6 per acre. The clearance is generally done in the sugarcane cultivation reaches only. The payment is voluntary and is not forced on sugarcane growers who are unwilling to pay the amount.

In view of the answer to the second part of the question, the last part of the question does not arise."

SRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN :—" In view of the fact that the amount is collected in respect of lands grown with sugarcane and there is strong objection against this collection, will the Government be kind enough to take on itself the work of channel clearing from the next year onwards?"

THE HON. DR. R. NAGAN GOUDA :—" This, Sir, is a channel which has to be cleared by kudimaramath and so, the question of its being taken over by the Public Works Department does not arise."

SRI S. RADHAKRISHNAN :—" May I bring it to the notice of the Hon. Minister that the collection is made only from people growing sugarcane in that area? There are also lands irrigated